

A True

ACCOUNT

Of a most

Barbarous Robbery,

Committed

By Six High-way-men at *Cambden*, in *Glocester-shier*,
on *Thursday* the 1st, of *August* 1706.

Also

The Manner of taking and Apprehending of
own *William Martin* and *Richard Jones*, and
Committing them to *Glocester Goal*.

9. Aug. 1706.

Loving Cousin,

YOU have often sent me News, of which I would make
you a constant return if our Country afforded it; and
therefore I Thought fit to send you the following Ac-
count. Last *Thursday* being our Fair Day; and it hapning to
be very Fine Weather, the Town was Throng'd more than
it hath been known for many Years; There being abundance,
both of Buyers and Sellers; so that a great deal of Money was
turn'd and winded. In the Morning Six supposed Gentlemen
very well Mounted, with Each a Case of Pistols before Him,
came to the Crown Inn; and putting up their Horses, call'd
for a Plate of Roast-Beef, which you know every House hath
ready early on the Fair-day, for the Entertainment of their
Guests; and Drinking a Glas or two of Wine order'd a Cou-
ple of Geese to be Roasted, and 3 Rabbits Boil'd with Oni-
ons, to be got ready for Dinner, by One of the Clock at far-
thest; after which they walk'd up into the Town and about
the Fair, not altogether, but single, to observe Passages, and
returning at the time to their Inn, Satc Carousing some
Bottles of Wine after they had Dined, till about Four of the
Clock in the Afternoon, when they Mounted and Rode away,
Posting themselves as it since appears, in the Lane on the farthest
side of Broadway-Hills, within two Miles of *Stow* the Old,
where they Robb'd and Bound all Comers and Goers, turning
their

their Horses loose, Cutting their Bridles, Girts, and Stirrup-Leathers in Pieces, to the Number of above Forty; but some Passengers perceiving them at a distance busied in Rifling, others suspected the Matter, and Rode back Alarming the Country, who rose all round to apprehend them, which they perceiving made over the Hills towards *Teuxbury*, and going down a Hollow way at *Stanway* found themselves beset, whereupon they Fired their Horse and Pocket Pistolls, whereby they Kill'd Seven Men and Wounded divers more, some of them Mortally: And having discharg'd all their Fire Arms drew their Swords, and setting Spurs to their Horses rode full speed into the Throng, and maugre all opposition, Four of them Cut their Way through, Riding over several People and got clearly off, by favour of the Night that approach'd, nor had the other Two been taken, but that one had his Horse Kill'd under Him, and the others Horse Stumbling, gave opportunity to a Country Fellow to Knock him Down, and were both (being Wounded) Carried before Justice *Rogers* of *Hales*, who sent them next Morning under a Guard of Thirty Men well Arm'd to *Glocester-Goal*; they would not tell from whence they came, but one said his Name was *William Martin* and the other *Richard Jones*, tho' we believe they are Sham Names. The Four which got off, Esc'd twice about to Rescue their Companions, but seeing it Impossible, made the best of their way. They all had the demeanor, when at our Town, of Gentlemen, and were Stout Fellows, having done a great deal of Mischief with their Swords, Wounding above Fifty Men, as it is Computed. The Fight from first to last, continued near an Hour and half; so that tis pitty they had not employed their Courage in a juster way; wherein they might have done the Queen and Country great Service; and gain'd Honour and Reputation to themselves.

Camden August the 3d, 1706.

Which is all at Present,
From your Affectionate Kinsman,

John Hastings.

London, Printed by *G. Croom*, and sold by *B. Bragg*,
at the *Raven* in *Pater-Noster-Row*, 1706.